

Amendment to the claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A carbon adsorbent for use in removing heavy metal anions from a liquid or gas medium comprising a porous carbon having a BET surface area greater than about 100 m²/g and having incorporated therein at least one oxygen-containing compound of at least one metal selected from the group consisting of iron (II), copper and aluminum, or combinations thereof, wherein said adsorbent is capable of interacting with said anions of said heavy metal to lower a concentration of said heavy metal in said liquid or gas.
2. (original) The adsorbent according to claim 1, wherein said oxygen-containing compound of metal is incorporated into said porous carbon by impregnation or dispersion within said adsorbent.
3. (currently amended) The adsorbent according to claim 1, wherein said oxygen-containing compound of at least one metal is an oxide or hydroxide.
4. (original) The adsorbent according to claim 1, wherein said heavy metal is selected from the group consisting of arsenic, selenium and combinations thereof.
5. (original) The adsorbent according to claim 1, wherein said adsorbent has a micropore volume of greater than about 20 cm³/100g.

6. (currently amended) The adsorbent according to claim 1, wherein said at least one metal selected from the group consisting of iron (II), and aluminum, or combinations thereof is present at a concentration of up to about 50% by weight of said carbon.

7. (currently amended) An adsorbent for removing heavy metal anions from a liquid or gas medium surrounding said adsorbent, said adsorbent comprising a porous carbon having incorporated therein at least one oxygen-containing compound of at least one metal selected from the group consisting of iron (II), ~~copper~~ and aluminum or combinations thereof, wherein said metal is present at a concentration in the range from about 0.01 to about 50 percent by weight of said porous carbon; said oxygen-containing compound being selected from the group consisting of oxides, hydroxides and combinations thereof; and said adsorbent having a BET surface area greater than about 100 m²/g, wherein said adsorbent is capable of interacting with said anions of said heavy metal to lower a concentration of said heavy metal in said liquid or gas.

8. (currently amended) A method for making a carbon adsorbent for use in removing heavy metal anions from a liquid or gas medium containing said heavy metal, said method comprising the steps of:

- (1) providing a porous carbonaceous adsorbent;
- (2) impregnating said porous carbonaceous adsorbent with a solution comprising at least one compound of at least one metal selected from the group consisting of iron (II), ~~copper~~, and aluminum or combinations thereof; and

(3) converting said compound into an oxygen-containing compound of said metal to produce said carbon adsorbent;

wherein said adsorbent is capable of interacting with said anions of said heavy metal to lower a concentration of said heavy metal in said liquid or gas.

9. (original) The method according to claim 8, wherein said porous carbonaceous adsorbent is an activated carbon.

10. (original) The method according to claim 8, wherein said compound of said metal is selected from the group consisting of halides, nitrates, sulfates, chlorates, carboxylates having one to five carbon atoms.

11. (original) The method according to claim 8, wherein said step of converting consists of thermal decomposition or chemical reaction.

12. (original) The method according to claim 8, wherein said one metal is present at a concentration of up to about 50% by weight of said porous carbonaceous adsorbent.

13. (original) The method according to claim 8, wherein said oxygen-containing compound is an oxide or hydroxide.

14. (original) The method according to claim 9, wherein said activated carbon has a BET surface area greater than about 100 m²/g and is selected from the group consisting of coal, wood, nut shell, petroleum residue and vegetable-based activated carbons.

15. (original) The method according to claim 9, wherein said activated carbon is selected from the group consisting of coal, wood, nut shell, petroleum residue, vegetable-based activated carbons and has a micropore volume greater than about 20 cm³/100g of adsorbent.

16. (currently amended) A method for making a carbon adsorbent for use in removing heavy metal anions from a liquid or gas medium, said method comprising the steps of:

- (1) pulverizing a carbonaceous material, a binder, and at least one compound of a metal selected from the group consisting of iron (II), copper, and aluminum or combinations thereof to form a powdered mixture;
- (2) compacting said powdered mixture into shaped objects;
- (3) crushing and screening the shaped objects into a metal-containing particulate material; and
- (4) gasifying said metal-containing particulate material to produce said carbon adsorbent;

wherein said adsorbent is capable of interacting with said anions of said heavy metal to lower a concentration of said heavy metal in said liquid or gas.

17. (original) The method according to claim 16, wherein said carbonaceous material, said binder, and said at least one compound of said metal are pulverized together.

18. (original) The method according to claim 16, wherein said carbonaceous material, said binder, and said at least one compound of said metal are pulverized separately before said pulverized mixture is made.

19. (original) The method according to claim 16, wherein said compacting is selected from the group consisting of briquetting, pelletizing, densifying, and extruding.

20. (original) The method according to claim 16, wherein said gasifying is conducted under an atmosphere comprising an oxygen-containing gas at a temperature in a range from about 900⁰C to about 1100⁰C, for a time sufficient to produce an adsorbent having a BET surface area of at least 100 m²/g.

21. (original) The method according to claim 16 further comprising the step of oxidizing said metal-containing particulate material before the step of gasifying.

22. (withdrawn) A method for removing heavy metal anions from a fluid or gas medium containing metal anions, said method comprising the steps of:

- (1) providing an adsorbent comprising a porous carbon having a BET surface area greater than about 100 m²/g and having deposited therein at least one oxygen-containing compound of at least one metal selected from the group consisting of iron, copper, and aluminum;
- (2) contacting a portion of said medium with said adsorbent; and
- (3) obtaining a treated medium having a lower concentration of said heavy metal than a concentration of said heavy metal of said medium;

wherein said anions contain oxygen; said heavy metal is selected from the group consisting of arsenic, selenium, and combinations thereof; said oxygen-containing compound is selected from the group consisting of oxides, hydroxides, and combinations thereof; said at last one metal is present at a concentration from about 0.01 to about 50 percent by weight of said porous carbon.

23. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 22, wherein said adsorbent has a micropore volume of greater than about 20 cm³/100g of adsorbent.
24. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 22, wherein said adsorbent has a form selected from the group consisting of granule, pellet, sphere, powder, woven fabric, non-woven fabric, mat, felt, block, and honeycomb.

25. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 22, wherein said adsorbent is disposed at a point of use.

26. (withdrawn) The method according claim 25, wherein said adsorbent is disposed in a fixed bed.

27. (withdrawn) The method according claim 26, wherein said adsorbent is disposed in a section of a water supply piping of a house.

28. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 26, wherein said fixed bed comprises a cartridge that is disposed at a water faucet.

29. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 28, wherein said cartridge further comprises at least one adsorbent selected from the group consisting of zeolites, ion exchange resins, silica gel, alumina, and unimpregnated activated carbons.

30. (new) A carbon adsorbent for use in removing heavy metal anions from a liquid or gas medium comprising a porous carbon having a BET surface area greater than about 100 m²/g and having incorporated therein iron (III) hydroxide, wherein said adsorbent is capable of interacting with said anions of said heavy metal to lower a concentration of said heavy metal in said liquid or gas.

31. (new) The adsorbent according to claim 30, wherein said anions comprise oxygen-containing species of said heavy metal.

32. (new) The adsorbent according to claim 30, The adsorbent according to claim 31, wherein said oxygen-containing compound of metal is incorporated into said porous carbon by impregnation or dispersion within said adsorbent.

33. (new) The adsorbent according to claim 31, wherein said heavy metal is selected from the group consisting of arsenic, selenium, and combinations thereof.

34. (new) The adsorbent according to claim 31, wherein said iron (III) is present at a concentration of up to about 50% by weight of said carbon.

35. (new) A method for making a carbon adsorbent for use in removing heavy metal anions from a liquid or gas medium containing said heavy metal anions, said method comprising the steps of:

- (1) providing a porous carbonaceous adsorbent;
- (2) impregnating said porous carbonaceous adsorbent with a solution comprising at least one compound of iron (III); and
- (3) converting said compound into iron (III) hydroxide to produce said carbon adsorbent;

wherein said carbon adsorbent is capable of lowering a concentration of said heavy metal anions in said liquid or gas medium.

36. (new) The method according to claim 36, wherein said at least one compound of said iron (III) is selected from the group consisting of halides, nitrates, sulfates, chlorates, carboxylates having one to five carbon atoms.

37. (new) A method for making a carbon adsorbent for use in removing heavy metal anions from a liquid or gas medium, said method comprising the steps of:

- (1) pulverizing a carbonaceous material, a binder, and at least one compound of iron (III) to form a powdered mixture;
- (2) compacting said powdered mixture into shaped objects;
- (3) crushing and screening the shaped objects into an iron (III)-containing particulate material; and
- (4) gasifying said iron (III)-containing particulate material to produce said carbon adsorbent;

wherein said carbon adsorbent is capable of lowering a concentration of said heavy metal anions in said liquid or gas medium.

38. (new) The method according to claim 39, wherein said carbonaceous material, said binder, and said at least one compound of said iron (III) are pulverized separately before said mixture is made.

39. (new) The method according to claim 39, wherein said gasifying is conducted under an atmosphere comprising an oxygen-containing gas at a temperature in a range from about 900⁰ C to about 1100⁰C, for a time sufficient to produce an adsorbent having a BET surface area of at least 100 m²/g.

40. (new) A carbon adsorbent for use in removing heavy metal anions from a liquid or gas medium comprising a porous carbon having a BET surface area greater than about 100 m²/g and having incorporated therein copper hydroxide, wherein said adsorbent is capable of interacting with said anions of said heavy metal to lower a concentration of said heavy metal in said liquid or gas.

41. (new) The adsorbent according to claim 40, wherein said anions comprise oxygen-containing species of said heavy metal.